

Appendix 15.3

The Assignment for Visual Analysis of Images Found in the Schomburg Center's *In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience (AAME)* Digital Archive

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Working in small groups of four, you will view and analyze one of the images listed below. All of these images can be found on the Schomburg Center's *In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience (AAME)*: www.inmotionaame.org. Click on Transatlantic Slave Trade, and then click on the Middle Passage topic link to access the following images:

- *The Slave Ship*
- *Hold of a Ship*
- *Punishment*
- *Bodies in the Sea*

Please circle your assigned image above. Then spend time in your small groups discussing the image and following the steps below:

1. Summarize: In your own words (one to two sentences), state the content of the image. What does the image depict?
2. Observe: Identify three features or qualities of the image that help you understand its meaning. What details seem most significant?
3. Contextualize: Read the caption (small print underneath image) and/or the larger text below the image. What additional historical and biographical background does the text provide? Focus on details that contribute to your understanding of the image.
4. Analyze: Choose three observations and/or contextual details you listed above for numbers 2 and 3, and write one or two sentences explaining the importance of each detail. What do you think the detail adds to the effect, purpose, or meaning(s) of the image?
5. For our next class: Using the visual analysis work you have done in class, write or type a two-paragraph or 300-word response that expresses your

understanding of the image's meaning. What does the image reveal about the Middle Passage and how does it impact the viewer's understanding of this historical event? Does the image participate in the "violence of abstraction" that Marcus Rediker critiques or does it resist that violence? Please explain why.